BEER FOR THE ARMY

Suggestion That Will Not Meet With Universal Favor.

SYSTEM THAT USED TO BE IN VOGUE

In All European Countries Liquor is Served to Soldiers.

VALUABLE EXPERIMENTS

Written for The Evening Star.



SHALL OUR SOL-diers be given a free ration of beer daily? Commissary General of Subsistence Eagan created a great sensation the other day when, before the war investigation committee, he recommended that beer be added to our regular rations for soldiers. His suggestion reopens a trying temperance discussion pigeon-holed by the

War Department in 1865, This lesson from the war just fought with Spain, as learned by the commissary general, diametrically opposes that learned by the authorities at the close of the civil war, when it was ordered that the old established habit of issuing rations of alcoholic stimulants be abolished. There has been no issue of liquor of any kind with the

army ration since this order of '65, but, upon the establishment of the system of canteens or post exchanges, these adjuncts were authorized to sell malt liquors or light wines to such soldiers as cared to invest their pin money for them. This canteen system was in practical operation during the war just closed, but it was forbidden that any of these stimulants be sold by the establishments in localities where local laws forbid liquor selling to the ordinary citizen.

Different Views.

Ever since the order of '65 there has been a sentiment among a large class of old and tried officers that the moderate use of liquors under the restraints thrown around men in garrison would be advantageous. Others have always believed that all the men should be given a carefully measured ration of beer or light wine, their argument being identical with that of the wives who estimate that their husbands will do less drinking altogether if allowed to do a reasonable amount at home. The third ele-ment has believed that the danger of drunkenness in the ranks is diminished by the men's knowledge that what they drink must be paid for out of their own pockets and that other things must be sacrified for it.

The "boys of '76" got their free dram

every day. As early as 1775 the Continental Congress passed a resolution prescribing as part of the ration of the continental troops one quart of spruce beer or cider per man per day. Before the Declaration of Independence, in '76, a gill of rum was added as a third item from which choice could be taken. In 1790 each non-commissioned officer, private or musician was allowed half a gill of rum, brandy or whisky daily or the value thereof. This was a move toward stronger drink, but it will be noticed that the whole gill allowed for rum was cut down to a half gill when whisky and brandy were added. In 1799 "rum, whisky or other ardent spirits, not exceeding half a gill," were prescribed as the drink portion. Three years later a whole gill of rum, whisky or brandy was allowed. In 1804 and until after the war of 1812 an equivalent in malt liquor or low wines could be drawn instead of whisky or brandy at such posts or garrisons and at demanded the substitution. In 1820, when the army was engaged in difficult roadbuilding in advance of the railways, it was ordered that whenever found necessary during surveys or hard work, non-commis sioned officers, musicians and privates should be given 15 cents a day extra for repair of clothing and an extra gill of whisky daily for repair of spirits. These laws and regulations remained in effect during the Mexican and civil wars and un til the general orders of 1865, forbidding any government allowance of ardent spirits whatsoever.

Need for Narcotles.

Before the war with Spain the subsistence department formally recognized that soldiers really need narcotics when it included a per diem allowance of one-half ounce of tobacco in the emergency ration. In a bulletin of the department issued for the information of officers this statement was made: "Under the influence of tea, coffee or tobacco man seems to be brot to a higher efficiency than without them. They keep up cheerfulness and enable men to endure fatigue and privations, while deprivation of them may cause depression, homesickness, feebleness and, indeed, may lead to defeat in battle. Depressed troops do not fight well and cannot be kept well in hand. A wise military leader will see to it that his men are not deprived of to bacco or he will regret his carelessness.' Nearly all European armies issue regular rations of rum, brandy, whisky or gir daily in quantities of from one to four ounces to each soldier. Wines and beer are included in the latest ration lists some foreign countries. In Austria, during peace, each soldier for breakfast gets coffee, tea or brandy, and men who smoke are allowed to purchase tobacco at a nomi-nal cost from the government shops. During war each soldier may daily receive 9 centilitres of brandy, 40 of wine, 75 of beer or 6 of cognac. A reduced price for tobacco and eigars is charged in the field. When cigars are requisitioned in the ene-my's country each Austrian officer and cadet is allowed six per day. They must pay for additional ones. Experimental Evidence.

The British army's late guide for rations, issued during operations in the field, recommended rum and lime juice at the discretion of commanders and upon recommendation of medical officers. The British ration table of equivalents also prescribes that a pint of porter is equal to a half gill of spirits. But since these were issued the British army has gathered the first experimental evidence bearing upon this military temperance question. Three regiments were selected from each of several brigades for tests at different times, partly during maneuvers. In one every man was forbidden to drink a drop while the test lasted; in the second malt liquor only could be pur-chased; in the third a sailor's ration of whisky was given to each man. The experiment was repeated in several instances where forced marches and other hard work was required. The whisky drinkers showed more dash at first, but generally in about four days showed signs of lassitude and abnormal fatigue. Those given malt liquor displayed less dash at first, but their endurance lasted somewhat longer. The ab-stainers, however, are said to have increased daily in alertness and staying pow ers. As a result of this experiment the British war department decided that in the recent Soudan campaign not a single drop of stimulant should be allowed in camp save for hospital use. The officers, including even the generals, could no longer enjoy their accustomed spirits, wines and mali liquors at their mess tables. There must have been some wry faces, especially among the Scotch laddies, when the order was published that for all hands, including even camp followers, liquid refreshment was to be limited to tea, oatmeal water lime juice and Nile water. Today it is a great feather in the headgear of the advooates of military total abstainers that Lord Kitchener's recent victory was won for him by an army of teetotalers, who made phenomenal forced marches through the desert, under a burning sun and in a climate famed for its power to kill or pre-maturely age the unacclimated. Indeed, 'tis said that never has there been a British

campaign occasioning so little sickness and profiting by so much endurance.

rack. Under ordinary conditions free issues of stimulants to the French soldiers may be made when the war minister de-cides. When there is a "review of honor" the inspector general may issue a ration apiece of wine or brandy. When a corps commander takes possession of his post he orders a "review of installation," and generally a good ration of spirits all around is ordered with this. Commanders of reg-iments or companies on days of fatigue are permitted to issue a stimulant ration and charge it against the mess fund. Of course it is almost as difficult to find a Frenchman who will drink "straight" water as it is to locate a fish which prefers to imbibe alco hol. All enlisted men are daily allowed brandy to make their drinking water wholesome from July 15 to August 31. All troops in bivouac are allowed this the year around. A French daily portion of wine, beer or cider for the army ration measures a half liter, of brandy a sixteenth liter.

The Dutch war ration allows one-half liter of gin under special circumstances and by order of the commanding general. In fortified places in time of war officers get a half liter of wine daily, and both officers and "non-coms" a half liter of beer. On Sundays each Dutchman in the ranks gets a half liter extra of beer. Once a week every man in the army is given a herring, two kilograms of tobacco and

seven cigars. In the Italian army, instead of coffee, wine may be issued as the drink portion of the ration, but one portion of wine is counted as worth two portions of coffee, and al together it amounts to only a quarter of a liter. At 4:30 in the afternoon of every feast day each Italian soldier gets an extra twenty-five centiliters of wine. During maneuvers the same is given each evening. When the Swiss soldier is exposed to se vere work or cold weather his superiors allow him from three to five deciliters of wine and from six to ten centiliters of brandy, or the wine may be issued alone

Valuable Substitutes.

Previous to the war with Spain the subsistence department of our army considered the advisability of introducing a drink portion of the emergency ration such as might impart the beneficial effects of alcoholic stimulants, but which would leave no depressing after effects. It was proposed by some to introduce such a beverage for the revival of tired troops just before a battle, after a hard fight or recuperating from trying forced marches. Meat extracts, which are now regarded purely as stimulants, were considered. Beef tea, for instance, contains very little if any material retained by the bo is highly stimulating. Meat extracts are valuable for restoring the flagging consti-tution. In the British army a stimulant consisting of dry beef powder is given the tired soldiers, but its actual food value is worth only one-fourth that of fresh beef

Some interesting experiments were made with both kola and coca to test their values as stimulants. A corporal and a private were detailed to set out one morning on a march of twenty-five miles in the hot sun. The corporal ate a hearty break-fast and marched in the ordinary manner, taking with him as much food as would ordinarily be issued to one man from the larder. The private started without his breakfast and took with him five kola nuts, nothing more in the way of food. Upon completing the march, within a little more than seven hours, the corporal, who had eaten the ordinary ration, was almost overcome by heat and fatigue. The private, who had partaken of the kola nuts only, reported that he had never felt fresher or stronger in his life than immefresher or stronger in his life than immediately after his return, yet he had but recently recovered from illness. With no other food than a handful of kola nuts Africans of the Congo region will walk fifty miles in a day with perfect ease. Liquid kola and kola in tablet form were also tested in the army with less satisfac-tory results. Stimulants made from South American coca leaves were examined. Coca has much the same effects as kola, but there is a prejudice against it, owing to the growing slavery to cocaine, extracted from the coca leaves.

In the Navy.

Until 1862 our jackies received a regular drink portion of rum with their daily ration. In that year a tremendous temperance pressure was brought to bear and the rum was forbidden. Today each warship his its "beer mess." The jackies club together and buy a stock of the amber fluid and drink it when they wish in port. Except among the officers and in the medical stores no alcoholic beverage besides beer is allowed aboard ship. Uncle Sam does not supply his naval officers with any stimulants, save in cases of sickness. In all European navies sailors are given their daily ration of grog, and in all of these, save the English, this daily allowance is doubled immediately before a battle. This custom has survived since those when the most reckless daring was essential for "boarding" the old-fashioned fighting ships.

The British admiralty lately gave orders that hereafter the double ration of grog formerly given previous to going into bat-tle be eliminated and that plain oatmeal water be substituted—that is to say, no alcohol whatever is now allowed previous to fighting. Those responsible for this reform consider that modern naval skill mands firmness of hand, precision of eye and steadiness of nerve in the handling of the delicate mechanisms and dangerous plosives with which our modern fighting

re now equipped.

JOHN ELFRETH WATKINS, Jr.

N THE CHURCHES

Rev. Drs. Parson and Hamma and probably several other Lutheran ministers of this city will attend a general conference of representative clergymen of the several branches of the Lutheran Church in this country which will be held at Philadelphia December 27 to 29. Representatives will be present from the general synod, Lutheran Church, to which most of the English Lutheran churches of this city belong; from the general council, Lutheran Church, which is composed of most of the German churches in the east; the joint synod of Ohio and the synod of Missouri. The object of the meeting is to ascertain whether there is not a common ground for agreement among the several branches of the denomination.

The program is as follows: Tuesday morning (service in St. John's Church) -Sermon, Rev. Joseph A. Seiss D. D.,; organization of conference, opening address by chairman of committee. Afternoon, Rev. H. E. Jacobs, D. D., presiding— "Our Common Historical Antecedents," Rev. E. J. Wolf, D. D., and Rev. J. Ni-cum. D. D.; "The Doctrines and Modes of Prayer," Rev. E. T. Horn, D. D.: "The Child Catechumenate," Rev. G. U. Wenner, D. D. Evening—"Our Educational Institutions," Rev. F. V. N. Painter, D. D., and

Rev. S. A. Ort, D. D., LL. D.

Wednesday morning (St. Matthew's Church), Rev. S. W. Owen, D. D., presiding —"The Scope and Limitation of Church Authority," Rev. D. H. Krotel, D. D., LL. D.; Sacramental Idea in Lutheran Theology and Worshin," Rev. 4 Spaceth D. D. and Morshin, Rev. 4 Spaceth D. D. and and Worship," Rev. A. Spaeth, D. D., and Rev. J. C. Koller, D. D.; "Problems in For-eign Mission Work," Rev. George Scholl, D. D. Afternoon—"The Common Book," Rev. L. A. George Fox, D. D.; "Common Sunday School Literature," Rev. L. L. Smith; "Lutheranism and Spirituality," Rev. E. K. Bell, D. D.; "Deaconess Work, Rev. W. H. Dunbar, D. D., and Rev. W. A.

Rev. W. H. Dunbar, D. Passavant, jr.

Thursday morning (St. Matthew's Church), Rev. H. F. Scheele presiding—"Lutheran Estimate of Ordination," Rev. R. F. Weldner, D. D., and Rev. J. R. Dimm. D. D.; "Standard of Ministerial Education,"
Rev. W. E. Parson, D. D., and Rev. F. A.
Kaehler. Afternoon — "The Lutheran
Church and Modern Religious Issues," in
German, by Rev. A. C. Voigt, D. D.; in English, by Rev. T. E. Schmauk, D. D.; "The
Problem of Co-operation," Rev. M. W.
Hamms, D. D. and Rev. M. H. Blobyde. Hamma, D. D., and Rev. M. H. Richards D. D. What the church of the twentieth cen-

tury is to be, according to the ideal set for it by a prominent leader, is as follows:
"The twentieth century church will have a membership and congregation aggregating its thousands housed in an edifice of beauty and comfort, with its auditorium, parlors, committee, lecture and social rooms; its library of well-selected and numerous volumes; its music, directed by the best talent—a church whose doors are never shut, but always open for prayer, consultation, rest, recreation, saciety, instruction, and helps recreation, society, instruction and help: s congregation every member of which shall be a conscientious contributor to the reve-nues of the church according to his or her means, divided into committees, upon some one of which every member shall have a working place and the duties of which shall campaign occasioning so little sickness and profiting by so much endurance.

The French Army.

In the French army rations for strategic movements include either brandy or armore pastors whose example in life, the wisdom of whose counsel and the fire of whose eloquence will be such that he or

that Congregational missionaries stationed in Utah have approached the Presbyterian missionaries there, the most numerous of Gentile workers, and together an agree-ment has been entered into for united work against Mormons. Some of the former have recently been in Chicago, Boston and New York trying to induce all missionary boards to unite in Utah work in one grand campaign. The tale which these missionaries tell is a most doleful one. They charge the Mormons with the most nefarious designs, and say many new schemes have been added since the death of the late president and the election of the new official head of the Mormon Church. The charge is made,

with proof, that polygamy is more common Some ministers in the east are much exercised over the matter, and presbyteries and other church bodies are taking action. The mission boards, after a joint meeting that was fairly well attended, declined to take action, not because they were unsympa-thetic, but because they failed to see their authority in the premises, and were skep-

tical of the efficiency of any means at their command to exterminate the evil. Baptist, Congregational and Lutheran publications are crying out against the Mormon evil. It is charged that no fewer than 2,000 Mormon missionaries are now at work in this country and in Europe prose lyting for their doctrine, and all of t serving without financial remuneration. Further particulars of the proposed ecu-

Lienical conference in New York, to which reference has been made in The Star, have been received, and, in part, are: "All societies doing mission work in foreign lands have been invited to take part, and almost all have responded favorably. A few have not yet been heard from. Christians whose headquarters are in Cincinnati, United Brethren at Dayton, the Indiana Yearly Meeting of Orthodox Friends, the Methodists and Presbyterians South, be sides the larger American boards, with headquarters in Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Chicago, will take part. Fa-vorable responses have also come to hand from Protestant societies in northern Europe and in Australia. Indeed, it is now certain that all the mission world will be

whom much of the burden of making advance arrangements falls, is the Rev. Dr. Judson Smith, the senior secretary of the American board, oldest of American missionary societies. He is recognized as one of the greatest of mission board secretaries in the world today. The general secretary is the Rev. Dr. S. L. Baldwin, recording secretary of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a man who is perhaps better informed on the working details of foreign missionary effort than any other in America. other in America. A prominent member of the executive committee is the Rev. Dr. F. F. Ellinwood, the senior secretary of the Presbyterian board of foreign missions; another is the Rev. Dr. A. B. Leonard, senior secretary of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Church, and a third is the Rev. Dr. Henry N. Cobb of the Reformed for-eign board—three of the great leaders of to-day in a foreign mission effort that is maintained by the self-denial of the Amer-ican church members. Prominent laymen are also on this executive committee."

The troubles of Crisp Memorial Church, rear Reltimore, and likely to accurate the

near Baltimore, are likely to command the attention of the Presbyterian ministers of this city at the next meeting of the synod of Baltimore, of which the churches of that denomination in the District form a part. A commission appointed at a recent meeting of the presbytery to consider the matter submitted a report, which was adopted to a special meeting of the body, but the friends of the pastor are not, it is said, satisfied with the verdict, and will appeal to the higher church power. It is alleged that the money with which

It is alleged that the money with which Crisp Memorial Church was built was left to the trustees of Central Church, Baltimore, in trust, and that under the terms of the trust the trustees have charge of the financial matters of the church. Some time ago a dissension arose in Crisp Church which grew in intensity until the trustees. which grew in intensity until the trustees took a hand and asked the appointment of a special commission. The commission visited the church and examined both parties to the disputation, and afterward held a number of meetings in hope of bringing about an amicable settlement, but did not succeed.

The evangelical alliance has just issued the suggested topics for the week of prayer, beginning January 1, and lasting until Jan-uary 8. The suggested sermon text for the uary 8. The suggested sermon text for the opening Sunday is from St. John, 17:23, on the topics of "Christian Unity," "I in them and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one," and for the second Sunday, Leviticus, 26:8, on "The Power of United Effort," "And five of you shall chase an hundred, and an hundred shall put ten thousand to flight." The topic for Monday evening is "Prayerful Confession;" for Wednesday, "The Church Universal;" for Wednesday, "Nations and Their Rulers;" Thursday, "Foreign Missions;" Friday, "Home Missions," and Saturday, "Families and Schools." Evangelical alliances of all the world make an appeal, which is attached the world make an appeal, which is attached to that sent out by the alliance for the United States, in which they urge churches and Christians in this country to observe the week. The remark is made that while each nation has its peculiar needs, yet all Christians have their common needs, and it is on these common needs that union is de sired. The general invitation is signed by representatives in Turkey, Hungary, Spain, Belgium and India, as well as all of the

more prominent countries.

The work of compiling a new hymn book for the use of the members of the Southern Presbyterlan Church has been begun. The committee is composed of Rev. Dr. J. W. Waldon, Athens, Ga.; Dr. R. C. Reed, professor church history, Theological Seminary, Columbia, S. C.; Dr. A. W. Milster, Missouri; Rev. W. S. Lawrence, Texas; Major John C. Whitner, Atlanta; Dr. W. S. Lawrence, Virginia

Lacey, Virginia. The arrangement is that each member will send from his home selections and these selections will amount to nominations or votes for hymns. To determine the aggregate of these votes and attend to other matters there is an executive committee, consisting of Dr. J. W. Waldon, Dr. S. L. Morris and Major John C. Whitner.

The committee has, it is stated, agreed unanimously on 175 hymns as indispensable to the collection. It was originally pro-posed to put 500 hymns in the book, but it was found that this limit would not include the old favorites and the best contributors of the last twenty-five years. Accordingly it was decided to select 700 to 800 hymns. Of this number about 200 will be put in a smaller book of prayer meeting and Sunday school work. Some of the best new pieces of the gospel hymns type will be taken, but the committee thinks that much of that kind of music is below the standard which should be adopted.

The last hymn book revision was made in 1866. The committee for this work has five years to complete the new hymn book and years to complete the new hymn book and put it in the market, but it will probably get through before the expiration of that time. It is said that only one member of the committee favors the dropping of the hymn beginning "There is a fountain filled with blood." It will be in the new book.

Mgr. Martinelli, the delegate apostolic, has it is understood from Boome. has, it is understood, from Rome two important decrees bearing directly on the

they will be able to lead the church to perennial victories.

"Such a church will be a living example and a living power, seen and read of all men, teaching them the way of life in all its rich and multiplied possibilities. It will eventually push to the wall every church that fails to rise to the requirements of the age."

A letter received in Washington states that Congregation of the index, and states that the book, "Mon..s and Their Decline," by Rev. George Zurcher, pastor of St. Jones Church, Enffalg, N. Y., has been placed under the ban of the church, and the author is in danger of ex-communication unless he retracts his errors.

The second refers to the funeral services of Roman Catholics who have joined Mashington states sonic orders, and its py far the most liberal

of Roman Catholics who have joined Masonic orders, and is by far the most liberal utterance which Rome has yet made on this subject. The latter decree allows a priest to officiate, and permits the interment to be in consecrated ground provided the deceased was not openly hostile to the church and expressed at some time, even if indirectly, a willingness to become reconciled to his former faith. This decree will end a long-standing grayance concerning end a long-standing grievance concerning the refusal of some priests to allow Roman Catholic ceremonies at the burial of those who had become affiliated with the preof the church under similar circumstances.

Father Zurcher's "Monks and Their Decline" is the first book work.

cline" is the first book written by an American to fall under the ban of the index. It has been an ecclesiastical sensation for the last three months, not only in this country, but also in Europe. The decadence of Spain and of all the Latin countries is attributed by Father Zurcher to the influence and power of the monks and be fluence and power of the monks, and he hints that the United States should suppress all the orders if it hopes to preserve law and order in its new Spanish possessions.

Father Zurcher is still in charge of his parish in Buffalo. He is an Alsatian by birth, but has lived in New York for many years. He is considered a brilliant man. He has always been champion of the liberal school of American Catholicism. In their appeal to the Methodists of

America for \$20,000,000, the bishops of that denomination explain that they take this action at this time, since it is impossible for the general conference to take it, as it oes not meet until 1900. The bishops make an interesting inventory of Methodist financial capabilities, saying that they hold nnancial capabilities, saying that they hold church property having a total value of \$116,000,000, educational property worth \$28,000,000, give \$23,000,000 each year for support and extension of Christian work under Methodist control, and have individual incomes aggregating \$500,000,000 a year. On the basis of these possessions the bish ops think it not at all excessive to the Methodists and their friends to contribute, think it not at all excessive to ask over and above their regular offerings, the sum of \$20,000,000 during the three years beginning the 1st of January next. The pur-poses which the bishops name to which the fund is to be devoted are \$10,000,000 to church and educational endowment and debt, and \$10,000,000 to charitable causes. "The official head of the conference, upon The appeal has been out but a short time, yet already individual trustees, conferences and other official bodies are acting in the matter. Methodists are welcoming the suggestion very generally in all directions. While in Washington recently Archbishop

While in washington recently Archoistop Ireland was asked to say what he thought of various proposed missionary movements which are contemplated by different reli-gious bodies in the United States. His an-"The people will soon realize that it is The people will soon realize that it is their duty to support religion by voluntary and personal contributions. In the greater number of parishes, moreover, church properties yield ample revenue to meet all expenses. The church everywhere in our new penses, in the church were highly arganized in the realized by the penses.

possessions is thoroughly organized. It wears no missionary or experimental aspect, but has the full form and the full strength of complete organization, and is well prepared to care for all her interests without the hand vithout the help of state or charitable aid. It demands no favor, no privilege; naught but liberty and legal protection of the national and civil rights of its members.

"Certain people who talk of those terri-tories as fields for missionary efforts from the United States do not know what they are talking about. They might with as much purpose organize missions for the conversion of the Catholics of Washingon as for the conversion of the Catholics of Santiago, Havana or San Juan, and their labors would have as much prospect of suc-cess in Washington as In the cities of Cuba and Porto Rico.

"Cuba and Porto Rico form an ecclesiastical province, with the archbishop of San-tiago as metropolitan, and suffragan bish-ops at San Juan and Havana. This province will take its place in the American hierarchy, just as do the province of Bal-timore and that of St. Paul, making the fifteenth ecclesiastical province United States, and bringing to our Catholic populations an addition of 2,500,000, not to talk of the islands in the Pacific, so, whatever else will come to America from the late war, considerable increase of numbers

and power will come from it to the Catholic Church."

Rev. Courtland P. Smith, pastor of Trinity
M. E. Church South, Lauref, who was recently transferred from Baltimore to the Louisiana conference by Bishop Granberry, received a telegram a few days ago from Bishop H. C. Morrison of the latter ference, now in session at Mansfield, La., informing him that he had been accepted and appointed pastor of the church Jeanerette, on the Southern Pacific railway, 100 miles west of New Orleans, in the ex treme southern part of the state. Mr. Smith asked for a location in Louisiana on account of his health. The Rev. J. K. Tillery will succeed the Rev. Mr. Smith at Laurel, taking charge the 1st of January. He has been transferred from the North Carolina conference to the Baltimore con-ference, in order to take the temporary appointment at Laurel. The Baltimore conference meets March 23.

At a recent meeting of the Presbyterian

Alliance, held at the Church of the Cove-nant, the following statement was given by Rev. Dr. Easton: "The church which I have the honor to serve as pastor desires me to repeat its gratitude for all it has re-ceived from this alliance. The entire cost of the plant known as the Eastern Presof the plant known as the Eastern Pres-byterian Church was \$73,715. This alliance paid towar1 this enterprise \$12,500 for lots and \$3,600 for interest on loans, making a total investment of \$16,100. Business men have the right to know if it has paid, what as been done and what the church is now doing. The answer we give to the investors is as follows: There has passed through the treasury of the church during the past five years a to al amount of \$66,547. the same period the Ladies' Aid Society gave (of this cum) from varied efforts \$6,712. The Sunday school gave \$2.371, and this Sunday school is now one of the largest in the city, numbering an actual membership The active membership of the

church is 445. "The accessions for the five years have been: By confession, 245, and by certifi-cate, 212, a total of 457. Baptisms, adults, (6); infants, 85. The pastoral calls for the same period have been 3,500. Every one who has invested a dollar in this enterprise cannot fail to admit it has greatly pros-pered. The present debt is \$35,000, which s steadily being reduced, the church now meeting all its current expenses, interest on loan, and holding a bright outlook for the

"The church edifice still remains undedicated, and some person who desires a last-ing monument to the beneficence and name can find none more suitable than to lischarge the debt and name the tower of his beautiful structure as a memorial."

Little Freddie-"Ma, didn't pa say there was always room at the top?" His Mother—"Yes, indeed, my child."
"Then, may I have another piece of pie?"



THE DAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS

A CHRISTMAS STOCKING. sad Time When Its Owner Was With

The following is a list of advertised letters remaining in the Washington (D. C.) Post Office Saturday, December 24, 1898.

To Wallace was a fine fellow, everybody said. As a boy he had been popular with his companions, respectful to his elders, and while he was full of first and of the sent to the Dead Letter Office. and while he was full of fun and always ready to join in juvenile sports, he was never bad. He was mischievous, as all full-spirited boys are, and if he sometimes made one of a party of lads who depredated a neighbor's peach tree or sneaked up surreptitiously to get some unripe grapes off old Miss Meadows' arbor he was merely inspired by the fun of the thing. His mother loved him dearly, and he loved her in return, and other fathers used to meet

'Wallace, old man, that boy Tom of yours is a great youngster. You ought to be proud of him."

And Tom's father was, because when a son is dutiful and obedient, and yet com-panionable, he is a comfort indeed to his

dear old daddy. It was a terrible blow to Mrs. Wallace and Tom and little Ida when that dear daddy died, but as time wore on the wounds grew less painful, and only when memory recalled his dear presence did the hurt get keen again. To Mrs. Wallace her children were a comfort, especially Tom. He grew sturdily, and after he went through school and entered an office he brought all his wages home every pay day and put the money in his mother's hands. She would urge him to keep his money himself, be-cause the family had been comfortably provided for before Mr. Wallace died.

"No," he would say: "you keep it mother. You're the kind of a bank I like." When he reached the proud age of twenty-one he was made prouder still by being made general manager of the company to whose interests he had been so loyal, and all said it was just what they expected from a young fellow like Tom Wallace. He showed public spirit, too, and in the city regiment he became a captain, and his company was admitted to be the best drilled of all.

But with all his activity and many responsibilities Tom Wallace was still his mother's boy, and when Christmas everolled around with each recurring year he lung one of the stockings he had worn as a boy and kept religiously ever since for the purpose on the edge of the mantel-piece in his bed room, and every Christmas morning he found it filled by the same dear Santa Claus that had given him such delight in the same way in the times when he couldn't guess who Santa Claus was. "It pleases me, Ida dear, and it pleases mother," he said last Christmas, when his sister Ida, now grown to womanhood and just coilege finished, to tailor-made nicety, joked him about hanging up his stocking, and he munched the candy he had found in the stocking as hungrily as he had twenty

years before.
Old Mrs. Wallace smiled happily. "Always hang it up, Tom; always hang it up. You'll always be my baby boy, when Christmas comes, my son." Her eyes lost their smile before Christ-mas had long departed, because the war with Spain had broken out and Captain Tom had gone with his company to the front. His friends begged him not to go. Ida had tearfully pleaded with him. All

used the same argument.
"There's plenty others, Tom; there's no need of you. Stay home."
Tom was adamant.
"When I put on a uniform I did it know-

ing what it meant. I am not a play soldier. My country has called. That is sufficient. "Go, and God protect you, my son," his mother's simple sentence, when he knelt by her side and told her what he believed his duty was.

Tom went. All through the miseries of

camp life he was cheery and bright. Com-plaining soldiers grew ashamed to murmur when they heard his hopeful assurances Then came Santiago, and when Shafter's army sailed for Cuba Tom was one of the

most ardent of the legion.

It all happened down in the narrow road where the deluge of Mauser bullets fell pittlessly. They carried him-two of his boyhood companions-down to a wretched field hospital. The surgeon merely glanced at the flny hole in his temple where the terrible missile had entered.

"The man is dead," he said, curtly. "You should have known it." Silently his companions bore poor Tom's body away, and laid it where the other in-animate sacrifices to the nation's cause were stretched in eternal silence

Ida's shrick, as she fell from her chair in a faint, told her mother that something had happened. There was a rushing of storatives were being applied the morning paper was gently removed from the girl's hand. Mrs. Wallace steeled herself for the ordeal, and her eyes scanned the page.
As one stunned, she read down the list of the fallen at Santiago. There it was among

he killed.
"Capt. Tom Wallace, shot through the Weakly, staggering, she sought her daughter's side, and, kneeling by it, she raised her head to heaven, and the light that fell on Bethlehem sank into her grand

soul and strengthened its glorious faith. "Oh, God," she murmured, "It is hard, it is hard; but Thou knowest best." Every one sympathized with poor Mrs. Wallace and her daughter, and the preachers, when they visited their flocks, held up the example of those two women because of their noble endeavor to look up and be yond their own woe and sorrow.

Christmas time, this Christmas time, was coming swift, and mother and daughter were talking about Tom and his goodness and his love, and Ida, sobbing, said:
"And he always hung up his stocking

Christmas eve." The flood of grief rolled from her moth-The flood of grief rolled from her mother's eyes, and she laid her trembling hand upon the fallen head.

"Yes, daughter, he always did, and this Christmas eve we, darling, will hang it where he always did. It would please him,

Who knows what the night may know

in that darkened room, when stealthily, as of old. Tom's mother steals in to fill that stocking with all he used to love to find there? Who knows if, when she creeps out again and weeps herself to broken sleep. some angel spirit will not hover over her and call her blessed? Who knows?

WANTED A TREAT. Judge Kimball's Illegal Treatment of

a School Teacher.

Judge Ivory C. Kimball will always remember an early Christmas that he spent in the west. He was living near Fort Wayne, Ind., and was attending a village school. The judge was then not more than eight years old. In those days Christmas was not much of a holiday in that section, but the school boys intended that it should be made one if they had anything to do with it. Country schools were few and far between, and many of the children were compelled to walk several miles to school each morning. The teacher at this par-ticular school, which was in a building lo-cated on the side of a public road in the voods, was a tall, rawboned man, who prob ably knew not much more than the chil-dren. It was the custom of the schools in those days that the early arrivals would start the fires and have the buildings warm by the time the teacher arrived. Christmas day was not a school hollday. Indeed, it was no more than any ordinary day so far as the pupils were concerned.

The boys agreed that this particular Christ-mas day should be a little different from the ordinary school day, and they succeeded in their undertaking. On the 23d of the month they met at the cross roads, not far from the school, and only the older boys were allowed to know what was going on.
It was agreed that something should be
done to make the day not only a holiday, but one that both teacher and pupils would ot forget very soon. When Christmas morning came the boys

who were in the secret plodded their way through the unbroken sheet of snow that had fallen the night before and reached the school an hour earlier than usual. There was not a boy in the whole crowd who dared start the fires. Instead of applying the torch the boys removed the fuel from the building and barred the doors and win-dows. When the hour for opening school arrived the tall man in charge was on hand, and much to his surprise he could not get in the building. The only explanation given was a shower of snowballs and the statement that the boys wanted a treat. There was nothing left for the teacher to do but to treat. His word was not sufficient, but when he dispatched a messenger to the village with an order for apples and candy the building was opened and the fires were soon started. The apples and candy were on hand in due time, and when the children had feasted there was a short session of the school and the children were permitted to enjoy a half holiday. arrived the tall man in charge was on permitted to enjoy a half holiday.

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